

# **ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME**

## **DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES**

### **NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner*  
*Jeff Regnart, Director*



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P.O. Box 1148  
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#### **2013 Kotzebue News Release #7**

#### **KOTZEBUE COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING OPENING**

Commercial salmon fishing will be open for 8 hours from 6 p.m. Wednesday, July 17 until 2 a.m. Thursday, July 18 in the Kotzebue District.

Catch more than doubled from the previous fishing periods as 18 permit holders caught 5,994 chum salmon during Tuesday night's 8-hour opening. The catch usually starts to shoot up sometime during mid-July so overall the catch was average for this date. Cumulative catch after five fishing periods is 15,372 chum salmon.

The commercial harvest this season is expected to be within the range of 225,000 to 250,000 chum salmon if market conditions can accept that level of harvest.

Permit holders are reminded that in addition to a 2013 Kotzebue commercial salmon fishing permit they must have a government-issued picture identification and your boat must be registered with DMV. All other crewmembers must have a 2013 commercial crewmember license, or a 2013 State of Alaska commercial fishing permit for any fishery can substitute for the commercial crewmember license. Also, commercial fishing vessels must be in compliance with federal regulations. The United States Coast Guard will be making safety checks of commercial fishing vessels in Kotzebue Sound this fishing season.

If you have any questions concerning the fishery you can call the Kotzebue office at 442-3420, or the Commercial Fisheries office in Nome at 1-800-560-2271 or the buyer at 442-4192.